

Pilot Project -- Assigning a Unique Student Identifier to Early Childhood Students



**A Collaboration of the Iowa Department of Education
and
Early Childhood Iowa**

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What is the Early Childhood Unique Student Identifier (ID) Pilot Project?

A pilot project intended to assess the challenges and strengths of the process to assign a Unique Student ID to students not attending an Iowa Department of Education (DE) sponsored early childhood(EC) program.



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Legislation

2010 legislation [SF2088, Section 256I.8] Early childhood Iowa area board duties:

“Cooperate with the (*ECI*) state board, department of education, and school districts and other local education agencies in securing unique student identifiers, in compliance with all applicable federal and state confidentiality provisions.”

Assumptions

- Assigning a unique ID is the **initial** step to understand impact of ECI services
- Recognition of the unique ID system at the Iowa Department of Education as a mechanism

What is the purpose of the DE Unique Student ID system?

The purpose of the system is to assign and maintain a unique identifier for every Iowa student:

- Unique student ID is a component of Project Easier to assist in monitoring educational records
- Number associated with student throughout his or her educational career or until he or she leaves the state
- Confidential and rigorous verification process is conducted to assign Unique and avoid duplication



Partnering with Head Start

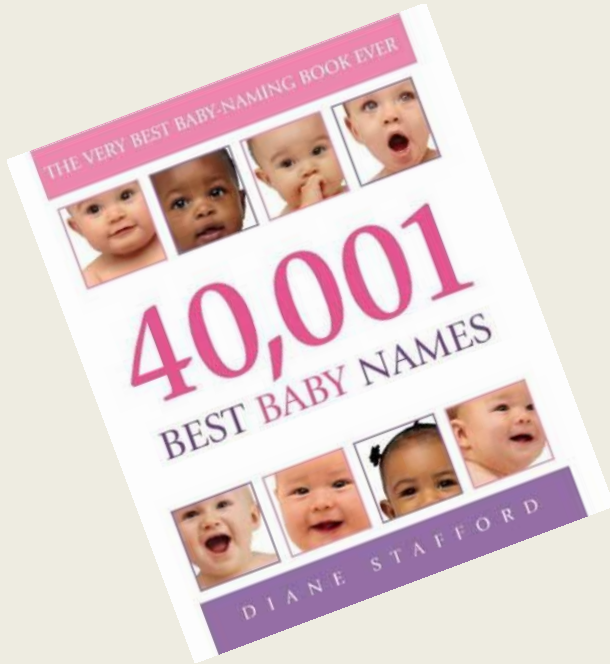
Head Start was chosen to partner for this pilot as they already gather student data and have a good relationship with DE, ECI and other community partners.



What data will be entered to assign the Unique ID?

Student Data:

- Last Name (Legal name)
- First Name
- Middle Initial
- Date of Birth
- Gender
- Race/Ethnicity



Costs

- Costs to add EC students, not attending at DE program include:
 - Vendor cost for adding students, and
 - Annual maintenance.
- Additional costs would include development and programming of an IT infrastructure, as well as on-going updates and maintenance.

Challenges of unique ID pilot



- Data collection from multiple agencies
 - Access to technology
 - Security for data transfer
 - Accuracy (data definitions)
 - Notification to families
- Funding
 - Sustained funding to design, develop and maintain a statewide EC data system

Next Steps

- Complete the data transfer and assign the IDs
- Follow up survey to evaluate the pilot process
- Report to the 2011 Legislature



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